

West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service

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West Virginia Commercial Trout Sales Down

West Virginia -- The 17 commercial trout producers in West Virginia had fish sales of 583 thousand dollars for the 12 month period from January 1, 2002 - December 31, 2002. This was a 30 percent decrease from the 827 thousand dollars in fish sales during the same period in 2001. Fish 12 inches or longer accounted for 96 percent of total sales of fish sold. Trout losses for the period totaled 53,000 pounds, up from last year's 30,000 pounds.

The value of trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes is estimated at 1.26 million dollars.

United States -- The total value of all sales, both fish and eggs, received by trout growers in the 20 selected States totaled 69.6 million dollars during 2002, a decrease of 9 percent from 2001. For the Nation, sales of fish totaled 65.2 million dollars for 2002, while egg sales totaled 4.45 million dollars. The State of Idaho accounted for 47 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of **trout 12 inches and longer** sold during 2002 totaled 50.2 million fish, down 8 percent from the previous year. The value of sales for the 2002 marketing year was 58.3 million dollars, down 9 percent from 2001. Based on the dollar value, 69 percent were sold to processors and 20 percent were sold to fee and recreational fishing establishments.

The number of **6"-12" trout** sold during 2002 totaled 7.34 million fish, a decrease of 5 percent from 2001. The average price per pound was \$2.50 during 2002, up 10 cents from the 2001 price. The total value of sales was 5.42 million dollars during 2002, down slightly from the previous year. The major sales outlet for 6"-12" trout was to fee and recreational fishing establishments with 54 percent of the total sales, followed by other producers with 15 percent, and government with 12 percent.

The number of **1"-6" trout** sold during 2002 totaled 8.96 million, a 1 percent decrease from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$156.00 during 2002, a \$13.00 increase from 2001. The total value of sales was 1.40 million dollars, up 8 percent from last year's total.

Trout egg sales in 2002 totaled 298 million eggs, down 12 percent from the 338 million eggs sold during the previous year. The average value per 1,000 eggs during 2002 was \$14.90 down 20 cents from 2001. The total value of trout egg sales during 2002 was 4.45 million dollars, down 13 percent from the 5.11 million dollars in egg sales during the previous year.

Distributed Trout

Trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes, primarily by State and Federal hatcheries, included 4.87 million 12" or longer fish, 55.7 million 6"-12", and 68.8 million fingerlings. The estimated value of fish and eggs distributed totaled 60.3 million dollars, down 9 percent from 2001.

Losses of Fish

Total losses of all trout intended for sale were 35.0 million fish during 2002, with 83.3 percent being lost to disease and 7.8 percent lost to predators. Losses to trout raised for distribution were primarily due to disease (69 percent) and predators (18 percent).

TROUT VALUE OF SALES (excluding eggs) JANUARY 1, 2002 - DECEMBER 31, 2002

State	12" and longer		6"-12" Size		1"- 6" Size		Total Value of Fish Sold ^{1/}	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
Thousand Dollars								
CA	5,125	4,416	766	*	129	*	6,020	5,091
CO	1,995	1,330	720	1,125	79	48	2,794	2,503
CT	*	*	*	*	--	--	222	275
GA	527	529	*	*	*	*	535	579
ID	34,365	29,920	*	*	*	*	34,823	30,456
ME	*	*	*	*	*	*	182	130
MA	282	190	*	*	*	*	375	369
MI	660	553	116	83	47	27	823	663
MO	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,893	1,858
NY	354	327	312	198	41	42	707	567
NC	5,915	6,348	214	158	346	323	6,475	6,829
OR	1,905	691	277	99	23	11	2,205	801
PA	4,100	3,722	742	774	52	66	4,894	4,562
TN	293	297	*	*	*	*	362	400
UT	1,114	893	178	181	32	7	1,324	1,081
VA	1,215	1,168	*	*	*	*	1,318	1,259
WA	2,590	4,505	729	492	197	388	3,516	5,385
WV	785	559	*	*	*	*	827	583
WI	1,644	1,490	155	212	34	58	1,833	1,760
Other States	1,527	1,396	1,233	2,098	310	427	--	--
Total	64,396	58,334	5,442	5,420	1,290	1,397	71,128	65,151
* Included in Other States								
^{1/} Arkansas reported trout only for distribution and no sales.								

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